

HORSFORTH
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st,

1904.

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HORSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1904.

To the Chairman and Councillors.

GENTLEMEN,

It is again my pleasant duty to present to you a favourable report of the health of the District for the past year. The maintenance of a low death-rate associated with an extremely low zymotic death-rate, and a small infantile mortality are details sufficiently worthy of mention at this stage of the report. A satisfactory feature of the year's work has been the opening of the new Isolation Hospital at Menston ; this, I hope, will do much towards relieving the District of those cases of infectious disease, which in consequence of our close proximity to Leeds and Bradford, are occasionally imported into our midst. Sanitary progress with regard to the adoption of the system of water carriage, has, in spite of a shortage of water, made steady headway, and your District, in the near future, now that an ample supply of good water is assured, and the Sewage Works are nearing completion, bids fair to become one of the most important, because one of the healthiest and most attractive of the suburbs of Leeds.

I regret to state that the District has shared, to a severe extent, in the general trade depression during the past 12 months, and I believe it to be a fact that such scarcity of work has not been known locally for many years. Many free meals have been provided, and milk, voluntarily given, has been distributed amongst the children of one of the Council Schools ; and work to a small extent has been provided by your officials, for the most needy cases.

Births.—There was a total of 177 registered, 92 males and 85 females. The resulting birth-rate, 21·9 per 1000 is the lowest ever recorded for the District. The corresponding rate for England and Wales, less 218 towns being 26·8. Although the population is largely a residential one, the birth-rate, in consequence, being necessarily lower, yet a glance at Table I will show how seriously the birth-rate is gradually diminishing.

Deaths, 99 were registered, 44 males and 55 females. The resulting death-rate is equal to 12·1 per 1000, that for last year being 11·6. Table I shows the death-rate for the past 10 years. As far as your previous statistics show, the smallness of the death-rates for the past 2 years constitutes a record. The corresponding rate for England and Wales, less 218 towns was 15·3. In Table IV. where the age distribution is shown, it will be noticed that there were 40 deaths, in column 8 (viz, of those persons dying at 65 years of age and upwards), the age of the oldest person being 93. Last year I reported deaths of persons aged 91, 93, and 95.

Infantile Mortality.—15 infants died before reaching the age of 12 months.

3 of the deaths were due to Premature birth.

2 " " " " Malformation at birth.

7 " " " " Respiratory diseases.

2 " " " " Alimentary "

1 " " was " Meningitis "

The resulting mortality rate, viz., 84 per 1000 children born alive, compares well with previous statistics, in Table I. The similar rate for England and Wales, less 218 towns, is 125. There is no doubt that an effect produced by the general discussion of the causes of physical deterioration is one resulting in more thought regarding the better feeding of infants. Two deaths only (out of a total of 177 children born alive), from diseases of the alimentary systems, is a very low proportion, and indicates that more care has been expended with regard to the proper diet for infants. That milk is a sufficient food for almost the first 6 months of life is becoming recognised by mothers generally, and I should here like to place on record my appreciation of the work done by the Local District Nursing

Association, whose two nurses have assisted materially in the propagation of this particular knowledge. To diminish the deaths due to respiratory diseases, nothing is so necessary as better ventilation. To confine a child to the house on all occasions except when the weather is very fine; to keep that child enveloped in clothes in the warmest and often the darkest corner of the house, is sure to lead to disaster. Fresh air and sunshine are essentials in the healthy up bringing of children.

The Zymotic Death-rate is that resulting from the following diseases :—Small-pox, Measles, Searlet Fever, Enteric and Continued Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping-cough, and Diarrhoea. It is generally regarded as the index to the Sanitary condition of a District. Six deaths occurred, including one case sent to the Isolation Hospital.

There was 1 death from Enteric Fever.

„ were 2 deaths from Membranous Croup.

„ „ 3 „ Diarrhoea.

The resulting death-rate is 7 per 1000, and compared with the same rate for England and Wales, less 218 towns, viz. 1.28, must be considered very satisfactory. Below are given the Zymotic death-rates for the past 5 years :—

1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
1.1	1.7	1.2	.5	7

I hope that the marked improvement in this rate during the past two years may be maintained, for I feel confident that the result is due very largely to the efforts of your Sanitary Committee in their crusade against Sanitary defects.

Small-pox.—Although it has been my duty to follow up several cases of “contacts” residing in the District, reported to me by various medical officers, it is gratifying that no outbreak of this disease occurred. Vaccination in all cases visited was readily assented to. In view of the unabated prevalence of Small-pox in neighbouring Districts, it is my duty to point out to you that re-vaccination should be generally adopted.

Whooping Cough and Measles.—Cases of these diseases have been very rare; there was no mortality.

Influenza.—Except for isolated cases of a mild type in the early part of the year, this disease has not been prevalent.

Scarlet Fever.—8 cases were notified, 7 houses being infected. With one exception, all the cases were separately imported into the District. It is very gratifying that the disease was so effectively prevented from spreading. Disinfection in most of the cases was carried out by the Sanitary Department of the Leeds Corporation. The last case notified December 2nd, was removed into the Isolation Hospital, but unfortunately died there. Some weeks after the interment, which took place at the cemetery, I learnt with much astonishment that the coffin was opened and the body exposed to view during some part of the funeral ceremony. It is surprising that any parents could be found guilty of such indiscretion. Fortunately, however, no evil consequences resulted. This was the only mortality.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup account for 2 deaths. In all, 10 cases were notified, 8 houses being infected. Two of the cases apparently received the infection from a bed-chair which was returned without disinfection after being used by a case which ultimately was proved to be Diphtheria 12 months previously. In another case strong suspicion was attached to that domestic animal, the cat, as the medium of infection, for the animal had been ailing for a few days from a disease which was apparently epidemic, with symptoms not unlike those of Diphtheria, and as there was no other case in the District from which infection could be received, it was considered likely that the disease had been transmitted in the manner above indicated. Two patients were treated in the Isolation Hospital. Disinfection in all cases was carried out by your Sanitary Officials, sulphur being chiefly used. Under certain circumstances Formalin has been found a preferable disinfectant, a spray apparatus and lamp have therefore been procured.

Enteric and Continued Fever.—6 cases were notified; there were no deaths. Three of the victims brought the disease from outside infected Districts. The remaining cases occurred in different parts of the District, and had nothing in common. In two, insanitary surroundings had possibly much to do with the causation, for in one case, outside a large filthy privy, were deposited two or three loads of refuse; much decomposition

having taken place. Such an occurrence illustrates in a very vivid manner the danger of our present lax system of ashpit emptying. One of the cases was sent into the Isolation Hospital. The excreta tub where necessary, was used as usual, and disinfection carried out, partly by your own officials and partly by aid of the Leeds Sanitary Department.

Diarrhœa accounts for 3 deaths, 1 in September, 1 in October, and 1 in November. Despite the extreme heat of summer and the small rainfall, this disease was not so prevalent as usual.

Phthisis Pulmonalis.—The large number of 11 deaths were registered, the resulting death-rate 1·4 per 1000 being considerably higher than that for the whole of the West Riding which for 1903 was 1·0 per 1000, while that for the Rural Districts was but ·8 per 1000. In my previous reports I have stated that cases of Phthisis frequently do well in your district; that the altitude, the pure and invigorating air made Horsforth the most suitable suburb of Leeds for anyone predisposed to this disease. If the assertion is to be maintained, why this increase of the Phthisical death-rate? On analysis of the returns, however, I find that only 6 of the victims have lived for any length of time in the District; that 4 came to reside here because of their chest affections, and one death was considerably hastened, if not altogether caused by habits of intemperance. It will therefore be seen that this death-rate is not, under the above circumstances, unusually high, and when it is taken into consideration that the population includes many stone workers, who are predisposed to chronic chest trouble, and that there are a number of small, badly built old houses in the District, there is nothing in the above figures to prejudice the position I have taken. This disease is essentially one caused by the defects of civilisation, of which the chief is that of want of care in regard to the purity of the atmosphere in our houses. A pure atmosphere in the house, is as necessary as a pure water supply. Warmth obtained at the expense of ventilation is a pernicious luxury, and one which in time must so weaken the constitution that the inroad for disease is made easy. "Cold" so-called is the concomitant of a stuffy atmosphere in nearly all cases, and those who are wise enough to appreciate this and act upon it, are those who are fortunate in the avoidance of many diseases. It is a

fact that those patients who have, of necessity, to undergo outdoor treatment, are rarely, if ever, troubled by the ordinary influenza cold. This is a striking lesson in favour of better ventilation in our homes, and if carried out would do much by way of reducing if not altogether eradicating the dreadful scourge of Phthisis, which yearly still claims so many victims. In order that it may become more generally known I should like here to state that the West Riding County Council have passed a bye-law to the effect that no person shall spit in any public carriage, hall, waiting room, etc., without becoming liable to a penalty of £5. The object of this bye-law, I need scarcely say, is for the prevention of tuberculosis.

The Respiratory Death-rate includes those deaths from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy, and equals 2·2 per 1000 of the population; this being, practically, an average of the similar rates for the past 5 years.

The Notification of Infectious Diseases.—32 cases were notified, and included—

- 10 of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.
- 8 „ Erysipelas.
- 8 „ Scarlet Fever.
- 6 „ Enteric Fever.

5 notifications were received in February,				
1 notification was	„	March.		
5 notifications were	„	April.		
2 „ „	„	May.		
3 „ „	„	July.		
2 „ „	„	August.		
3 „ „	„	September.		
4 „ „	„	October.		
4 „ „	„	November.		
3 „ „	„	December.		

Since the Act was adopted in 1898 the following is the record—

1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
141	130	123	142	48	33	32

And now that the Isolation Hospital is completed I hope the worst days are over and that this list of notifiable diseases will continue to decrease. 2 cases of Diphtheria, 1 of Scarlet Fever, and 1 of Enteric Fever have already been treated in the Hospital.

Although this list of diseases is comparatively a small one, there is one infectious condition which so far has not been mentioned in this report, but which, nevertheless, has caused considerable trouble to many parents during the past year. I refer to Impetigo, an infectious eczema, engendered very largely by a filthy condition of the hair. The disease is one capable of ready recognition by the teachers, and any child so suffering should not be permitted to remain in school to the great detriment of others upon whom much care has been expended. I regret that no firm stand is made by the Education Authorities to send their children to school in a cleanly condition. In my opinion if a greater regard to matters of this sort were inculcated into the minds of children it would be more beneficial than all the nowadays much talked of free feeding of school children. Having approached the topic of physical deterioration, may I here state, what, to my mind, is the greatest factor concerning it. It is the indulgent and undisciplined manner in which many children are being brought up, and to remedy the great defect, it is to the mothers that we must look. For proper food, cleanliness, ventilation of the house, and most of the discipline, the mother is responsible, and it will be a sign of great decadence indeed, when such details have to receive attention at the hands of the legislator.

Bacteriological Department of the West Riding County Council.—22 specimens have been sent to the County bacteriologist for examination during the year, the reports of which in many cases have proved of extreme value in arriving at an early diagnosis.

General Characters of the District.—Horsforth Urban District is principally a residential locality for Leeds and Bradford. Situated for the most part on rising ground, in some places exceeding 500 feet above the sea level, Horsforth lies on the north bank of the River Aire, having on the north and north-east the boundary of the Wharfedale Rural District, on the east

and south being co-terminus with the boundary of the City of Leeds; whilst on the south-west and west it is joined with Calverley Urban District and the Urban Districts of Rawdon and Yeadon respectively. It measures in length about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles and at its widest part $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and contains in all about 2,891 acres. Its subsoil, whilst sandy in places, is mostly of a clayey nature. With the exception of a narrow portion extending from West End to Scotland Lane, which lies on the coal measures, the district is entirely of millstone grit. The population of the area is divided into localities called

Horsforth proper, containing about	5,190
Woodside " " "	1,475
Cragg Hill " " "	880
Newlay " " "	320
Scotland Lane " "	185
	<hr/>
	8,050

There are 2,002 houses, and of these about 40 are unoccupied

The Rateable Value upon houses is £27,460 4s. 3d.

The Rateable Value upon land is £2,755 16s. 6d.

The District Rate for the year amounted to 5/- in the £

The Poor Rate for the year amounted to 2/6 in the £

In my last report I ventured to remark upon the tar-macadamised work that had been done during the year, and congratulated you upon its sanitary superiority over limestone. I regret that this variety of road mending has not been resorted to more extensively during the present year, for the tar-macadamised roads are so highly appreciated by most people that an extension of the work, seems to be more than justified.

WATER SUPPLY.

Much anxiety was felt, more or less, during the whole of the year in consequence of the shortness of the water supply, and when the rainfall proved to be an unusually light one, anxiety was succeeded by alarm. Notices were sent to all householders

on more than one occasion, asking them to conserve the supply, as far as possible, and to boil all waters used for drinking purposes as the reservoirs were very low. The water from the compensation reservoir was lifted by means of a temporary pump, and used to relieve the situation. Fortunately a continuous supply was maintained throughout the year and in the near future the water from the bore-hole in Scotland Lane will be available, thus terminating any further anxiety upon the subject. An analysis of the water taken from a house in Town Street, made at the County Hall in December, showed a somewhat high proportion of organic matter present. Such a report was almost to be expected, because in addition to the low state of the reservoirs, the improvements on the gathering grounds, suggested in my last year's report have not yet been carried out, and until such defects have been remedied, the result cannot be very satisfactory. Fortunately during the early part of the present year, 1905, the sanction of the Local Government Board has been received for the borrowing of money sufficient for this work which will now be completed; after which the District will be in possession of an abundant and a pure water supply sufficient to meet the growing demands of the district.

The Town's Well in Parkside still remains exposed to pollution as does also the public water trough at West End.

SEWERAGE.

The main part of the district was sewered in 1883 at a cost of £14,000, and since then extensions have been made to meet the requirements of the district. Owing to the scarcity of water much flushing of the sewers was not possible, but now that the prospects of an abundant water supply are about to be realised, I hope that systematic flushing will be carried out. Several defective street gullies have, during the year, been replaced by some up-to-date ones. I do wish that something could be done to prevent the many nuisances arising from the mis-use of street gullies. Warnings are of no avail and the nuisances so frequently complained of are created as much as ever. It should be remembered that many of these gullies are not connected with the sewer, and that the deposit of slops must be very harmful. There is a great need for the erection of a few elevated ventilators in different parts of the

district, where, even with flushing, it is difficult to prevent the foul sewer emanations. As I have pointed out in my previous reports the roadway ventilators are mostly completely filled in with mud, done either intentionally or otherwise. These should all be opened until further provision for ventilation of the sewers is made.

Sewage Disposal.—The first portion of the sewage works, estimated at £15,000, started in 1903, viz., the large septic tanks and the septic filter beds intended to treat the storm-water flow, have been completed. The remaining portion of the works, viz., the completing of the various contact beds, is to be commenced immediately, on the completion of which the District should be possessed of a most efficient means for the purification of its sewage.

Refuse Disposal and Scavenging is let to Contractors. Previously the number of contractors was four. This year the number was reduced to two in the hope that the work would be better done. A strict agreement exists between the Council and the contractors, and I am convinced that the work has never been better done than at the present time. In spite of all, however, the present system is a poor one ; many nuisances both from negligence to inform when the places require emptying and from mis-use of the ashpits. This work will never be satisfactorily done except under the direct supervision of your Sanitary Inspector. Offenders with regard to misuse of ashpits should be discovered and summoned, for it is an absurdity that owners of property should be required to put their premises into repair if as great a nuisance is created immediately by negligent tenants. Portable ashbins grow in favour, several new houses being provided with them.

The system of refuse disposal includes the following :—

Water Closets	.	..	408
Pan or Pail...	3
Trough Closets	6
Covered or Uncovered	422

26 insanitary Privies were converted into Water Closets during the year.

The total number of nuisances reported was 50, of which 47 were abated. The total number of Legal Notices served for abatement of nuisances was 15.

No new By-Laws have been passed during the year.

The Burial Grounds are 5 in number :—

- 1.—Cemetery.
- 2.—Old Church Yard.
- 3.—Burial Ground in Church Road.
- 4.—Cragg Hill Burial Ground.
- 5.—Woodside Church Yard.

New Graves are procurable at the Cemetery only.

Slaughterhouses number 15. A new one in Woodside was licensed for use during the year. No serious steps have been taken to remedy the defects of the various slaughter-houses mentioned in my last report. Nothing but a general consideration of these will meet the needs of the situation.

Cowsheds.—During the past year the first important steps have been taken to bring the cowsheds into a sanitary state. The Cowsheds' Committee visited all the dairy farms in the District, and after the usual formalities placed on the register 25 out of a possible 36 cowsheds. The owners of all defective sheds have been communicated with and steps are being taken to bring these into a sanitary condition. Although the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops' Order was adopted by the Council in 1885, no steps have ever been taken before the present year to carry out the regulations of this important Act. Plans have been carried out for the re-construction of one of the insanitary Cowsheds and arrangements with owners have been made regarding the majority of the remainder.

During the inspection of Cowsheds above mentioned, 3 cows were discovered suspected of Tuberculosis. The suspicions were verified by the veterinary surgeon appointed to investigate, and upon whose opinion all the three animals were destroyed.

The Factory and Workshops' Act.—Forty workshops are on the register and have been visited periodically. On the whole they were found cleanly and it was not necessary to take any steps regarding their sanitary condition.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I therefore summarise what I consider at the present time to be the most pressing sanitary needs of the District :—

- (1) A more perfect system of Ashpit emptying.
- (2) A continuance of the energetic policy to bring the Cowsheds into a sanitary state.
- (3) To carry out the regulations regarding the control of Slaughterhouses.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY BAILEY



TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in District.					Deaths of Non-residents registered in the District.	Deaths of residents registered in the District.	Deaths of residents outside the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.		
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year.				At all Ages.				Number.	Rate.*	
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*	Number.						Rate.*
1894	7347	206	27.9	30	146	114	15.					114	15.5	
1895	7423	213	28.6	26	122	101	13.6					101	13.6	
1896	7438	226	30.1	20	88	93	12.5	2	3			93	12.5	
1897	7574	207	27.3	37	178	128	16.8	1	4			128	16.8	
1898	7600	211	27.7	26	123	134	17.6					134	17.6	
1899	8000	192	24	21	109	119	14.5	3				116	14.3	
1900	8125	195	24	24	123	103	12.6	3	4			104	12.8	
1901	7785	195	25	19	97	106	13.6	1	1			106	13.6	
1902	7800	219	28	22	100	115	14.7		2			117	15.0	
1903	7924	197	24.8	23	117	92	11.6			9		101	12.7	
Averages for years 1894-1903	7707	206	26.7	24	120	110	14.3					111	14.4	
1904	8050	177	21.9	15	84	99	12.1			9		110	13.6	

*Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated Population.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

Notifiable Diseases.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 and upwards
Diphtheria	9	—	3	4	1	1	—
Membranous croup	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	—	—	—	—	8	—
Scarlet Fever	8	—	3	5	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	6	—	1	—	2	3	—
Totals.....	32	—	8	9	3	12	—

TABLE VI.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904.

Causes of Death	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	16 and under 25.	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.....	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diarrhoea	3	1	1	1	—	—	—
Other Septic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	12	—	—	1	1	10	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease	9	—	—	—	—	5	4
Bronchitis	11	2	—	—	—	1	8
Pneumonia	6	4	1	—	1	—	—
Pleurisy	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Alcoholism) Cirrhosis of Liver)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Premature Birth ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Heart Diseases	12	—	—	—	1	4	7
Accidents.....	6	—	1	—	—	4	1
All other causes	39	5	2	1	1	12	18
All causes.....	110	15	7	4	5	39	40

TABLE C.

Horsforth Urban Sanitary District.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, HENRY BAILEY.

SANITARY INSPECTOR, WENTWORTH JONES.

WATER SUPPLY—

Quality?—Good. Action on Lead?—Nil.

Any extensions or change during 1904?—400 yards 3in. pipes taken up and relaid in 6in. Two extensions of 610 yds. and 420 yds. respectively (3in. pipes), Hawkesworth Road and Breary Estate, Woodside.

Any inadequacy in any part?—West End is indifferently supplied. This is, however, being provided for.

SEWERAGE—

Is the district systematically sewered?—Yes Is rainfall from roads excluded?—Yes.

Any inadequacy, and where?—No.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

System adopted?—Double contact, septic treatment.

Any complaint in neighbourhood of sewage works?—No.

SCAVENGING—

Are the privy-middens, ash-places, etc., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—Contractors.

Any inadequacy of scavenging?—No.

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Acts adopted during 1904 (or part)?—None.

Any diseases added to Notification schedule, *e.g.*, Measles, Chicken Pox, &c.?—No.

Any system of voluntary notification of Phthisis?—None.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.	No. in Dis- trict.	No. in Reg- ister	No. in In- sp'ct'd	General Condition?	Legal Proceedings (if any)
Common Lodging Houses...	None				
Canal Boats	None				
Slaughter Houses	15	1	all	Several Defective.	
Cowsheds	None	25	36	Fair.	
Offensive Trades	7			3 tanneries, 1 skin dresser, 2 soap fac- tories, 1 sizing boiler.	

COWSHEDS—

Give date of Regulations in force under D.C.M. Order?—October 16th, 1903.

Any special inspection made during 1904?—Yes. All cowsheds inspected to enforce registration.

Any action taken by outside authorities, *e.g.*, under 'Milk Clauses' concerning milk supplied from this district?—No.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

What disinfecting apparatus is available?—Steam at Leeds or Menston.

How are dwellings disinfected?—Sulphur and Formalin.

Any placards or handbills issued during 1904?—No.

SCHOOLS—

No. closed during 1904 on account of sickness?—None.

Any ailment of contagious disease associated particularly with school life during 1904?—No.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT—

No. of Workshops in the district, as per Register?—40.

No. of Bakehouses included in above?—7.

No. of inspections made during 1904 ?—63.

Legal proceedings ?—None.

No. of Underground Bakehouses in district ?—3.

Any action as to unwholesome or infected Outworkers' premises ?—No.

DWELLINGS—

Number of Houses built during 1904 ?—54.

General character ?—Through.

Any houses unfit for habitation ?—No.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses ?—No.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts ?—No.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made ?—No.

Are records kept ? - No.

NUISANCES—

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1903 ?—149.

At close of 1904 ?—199.

Reported during 1904 ?—50.

Abated during 1904 ?—47.

Total No. of Legal Notices served for Abatement of Nuisances during 1904 ?—15

Total number of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings ?—1.

No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1904 ?—None.

„ „ trapped „ None.

No. of Closets reconstructed during 1904 ?—26 Converted to Water Closets.

METEOROLOGY—

Rainfall ?—26.71.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters ?—

Seizure of Unsound Food ?—No.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts ?—None.

Has there been any poisoning during 1904 attributed to—

Arsenical Beer ?—No.

Ptomaines ?—No.

Lead-contaminated water ?—No.

River Pollution ?—None.

Smoke observations taken ?—None.

Legal Notices ?—None.

Summonses ?—None.

Burial Grounds—No. in District ?—4.

Any need for (a) extension ?—No. (b) closure ?—No.

Mortuaries—No. in District (a) for accidents ?—One.

(b) other ?—None.

BIRTHS during 1904—Males 92. Females 85. Total 177.

Number illegitimate, included in above ?—None.

Number of Still Births (not included) ?—None.

DEATHS during 1904—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district, without any correction ?—99.

(2) Nett Deaths, on which the rates are calculated ?—Males 50. Females 60. Total 110.

Number uncertified, included in the above ?—None.

SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT, AND SUGGESTIONS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :—

- (1) A more perfect system of ash-pit emptying.
- (2) A continuance of the efforts to bring the cowsheds into a more sanitary state.
- (3) To carry out the regulations regarding slaughterhouses.